

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A trailer tongue extension assembly comprising:
a tubular trailer tongue attached to a trailer, the tubular trailer tongue having a removable extension;
a first electrical connector disposed within the trailer tongue; and
a second electrical connector disposed within the removable extension;
wherein the first and second electrical connectors engage and disengage as the removable extension is installed or removed from the trailer tongue.
2. (Original) The trailer tongue extension of assembly of claim 1, wherein the first electrical connector is disposed in a holder that is removably disposed within the trailer tongue.
3. (Original) The tongue extension assembly of claim 1, wherein the second electrical connector is disposed in a holder that is removably disposed within the removable extension.
4. (Previously Presented) The trailer tongue extension assembly of claim 1, wherein the first electrical connector and the second electrical connector are substantially enclosed within the assembly.
5. (Previously Presented) The trailer tongue extension assembly of claim 1, wherein the extension slip-fits into the tubular trailer tongue.
6. (Original) The trailer tongue extension assembly of claim 2, wherein the extension slip-fits into the holder.
7. (Previously Presented) The trailer tongue extension assembly of claim 1, further including an attacher configured to attach the removable extension to the trailer tongue.
8. (Original) The trailer tongue extension assembly of claim 1, wherein the first electrical connector and the second electrical connector are mated electrical plugs.

9. (Original) The trailer tongue extension assembly of claim 1, wherein the first electrical connector is keyed to mate only with the second electrical connector of the extension.

10. (Original) The trailer tongue extension assembly of claim 1, wherein the first electrical connector is inaccessible from an open end of the trailer tongue without the trailer tongue extension.

11. (Original) The trailer tongue extension assembly of claim 1, further including a trailer electrical harness connected to the first electrical connector and a towing vehicle electrical harness connected to the second electrical connector.

12. (Original) The trailer tongue extension assembly of claim 11, wherein when assembled, the vehicle electrical harness provides electricity to the trailer electrical harness.

13. (Original) The trailer tongue extension assembly of claim 1, further including a lock structured and arranged to lock a tongue pin in place as it is passed through aligned holes of the trailer tongue and removable extension.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Original) The trailer tongue extension assembly of claim 1, wherein the tubular trailer tongue and removable extension have a substantially rectangular cross section.

16. (Original) The trailer tongue extension assembly of claim 1, wherein the tubular trailer tongue and removable extension have a substantially square cross section.

17. (Currently Amended) A trailer tongue extension assembly comprising:
a tubular trailer tongue attached to a trailer, the tubular trailer tongue having at
least one open end and an internal channel at least partially along a
longitudinal axis from the open end;
a first electrical connector disposed within the internal channel;

a tubular tongue extension having a mating end structured and arranged to slip fit into the open end of the trailer tongue, and
a second electrical connector disposed at least partially within the mating end and structured and arranged to mate with the first electrical connector; and
an attacher configured to attach the tongue extension to the trailer tongue when the tongue extension is slip-fit into the trailer tongue.

18. (Original) The trailer tongue extension assembly of claim 17, wherein the first electrical connector and the second electrical connector are mated electrical plugs.

19. (Original) The trailer tongue extension assembly of claim 17, wherein the electrical connectors are enclosed within the tongue extension assembly when assembled.

20. (Original) The trailer tongue extension assembly of claim 17, wherein the first electrical connector is keyed to mate only with the second electrical connector of the tubular tongue extension.

21. (Original) The trailer tongue extension assembly of claim 17, wherein the first electrical connector is inaccessible from the open end without the trailer tongue extension.

22. (Original) The trailer tongue extension assembly of claim 17, wherein engaging the attacher when the tongue extension is removed from the open end of the trailer tongue prevents mating between the first and second electrical connectors.

23. (Original) The trailer tongue extension assembly of claim 17, wherein the attacher ensures the first electrical connector and the second electrical connector remain mated when the tongue extension is slip-fit into the opening of the trailer tongue.

24. (Original) The trailer tongue extension assembly of claim 17, further including a trailer electrical harness connected to the first electrical connector and a towing vehicle electrical harness connected to the second electrical connector.

25. (Original) The trailer tongue extension assembly of claim 24, wherein when assembled, the vehicle electrical harness provides electricity to the trailer electrical harness.

26-28. (Cancelled)

29. (Original) The trailer tongue extension assembly of claim 17, wherein the tubular trailer tongue and tubular trailer extension have a substantially rectangular cross section.

30. (Original) The trailer tongue extension of assembly of claim 17, wherein the first electrical connector is disposed in a holder that is slip-fit into the internal channel of the trailer tongue.

31. (Original) The tongue extension assembly of claim 17, wherein the second electrical connector is disposed in a holder that is slip-fit into an opening in the mating end of the removable extension.

32. (Previously Presented) A trailer tongue extension assembly comprising:
a tubular trailer tongue having a removable extension;
a first electrical connector disposed in a holder that is removably disposed within the trailer tongue; and
a second electrical connector disposed within the removable extension;
wherein the first and second electrical connectors engage and disengage as the removable extension is installed or removed from the trailer tongue.

33. (Previously Presented) A trailer tongue extension assembly comprising:
a tubular trailer tongue having a removable extension;
a first electrical connector disposed within the trailer tongue; and
a second electrical connector disposed in a holder that is removably disposed within the removable extension;
wherein the first and second electrical connectors engage and disengage as the removable extension is installed or removed from the trailer tongue.

34. (Previously Presented) A trailer tongue extension assembly comprising:

a tubular trailer tongue having a removable extension;
a first electrical connector disposed within the trailer tongue;
a second electrical connector disposed within the removable extension; and
a lock structured and arranged to lock a tongue pin in place as it is passed through
aligned holes of the trailer tongue and removable extension;
wherein the first and second electrical connectors engage and disengage as the
removable extension is installed or removed from the trailer tongue.

35. (Previously Presented) A trailer tongue extension assembly comprising:
a tubular trailer tongue having at least one open end and an internal channel at
least partially along a longitudinal axis from the open end;
a first electrical connector disposed within the internal channel;
a tubular tongue extension having a mating end structured and arranged to slip fit
into the open end of the trailer tongue, and
a second electrical connector disposed at least partially within the mating end and
structured and arranged to mate with the first electrical connector;
an attacher configured to attach the tongue extension to the trailer tongue when
the tongue extension is slip-fit into the trailer tongue;
wherein the attacher is a tongue pin passing through an aligned set of holes in the
trailer tongue and the trailer extension.

36. (Previously Presented) A trailer tongue extension assembly comprising:
a tubular trailer tongue having at least one open end and an internal channel at
least partially along a longitudinal axis from the open end;
a first electrical connector disposed within the internal channel;
a tubular tongue extension having a mating end structured and arranged to slip fit
into the open end of the trailer tongue, and
a second electrical connector disposed at least partially within the mating end and
structured and arranged to mate with the first electrical connector;
a lock structured and arranged to lock a tongue pin in place as it is passed through
an aligned set of holes in the trailer tongue and trailer extension when the
tongue extension is slip-fit into the trailer tongue.

37. (Currently Amended) A trailer tongue extension assembly comprising:
a tubular trailer tongue having at least one open end and an internal channel at
least partially along a longitudinal axis from the open end;
a first electrical connector disposed in a holder that is slip-fit into the internal
channel;
a tubular tongue extension having a mating end structured and arranged to slip fit
into the open end of the trailer tongue, and
a second electrical connector disposed in a holder that is slip-fit into an opening in
the mating end and structured and arranged to mate with the first electrical
connector; and
an attacher configured to attach the tongue extension to the trailer tongue when
the tongue extension is slip-fit into the trailer tongue.